

## VERNON CRUDGE

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JANUARY 17 (legislative day, JANUARY 8), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany S. 59]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 59) for the relief of Vernon Crudge, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

## PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to enable Vernon Crudge, a citizen of Great Britain who was born in China of British parents, to apply for an immigration visa for admission into the United States for permanent residence under the quota for Great Britain.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill was born in 1912 in China but is a citizen of Great Britain. He last entered the United States on May 17, 1950, as a treaty trader, and subsequently his status was changed to that of a temporary visitor. He was employed by the British Overseas Airways Corp. for a number of years as director and general manager of the western division. Due to the fact that Mr. Crudge was born in China, he is chargeable to the Chinese quota, although he is British and his parents were British. Had he been born in Great Britain, he could readily obtain a quota immigration visa.

A letter dated November 10, 1950, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General, with reference to a bill which was introduced in the Eighty-first Congress for the relief of the same alien, reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
Washington, November 10, 1950.

Hon. PAT McCARRAN,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,*  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 4106) for the relief of Vernon Crudge.

The bill would provide that Vernon Crudge shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States as of the date of his last entry, upon payment of the required visa fee and head tax. It would also direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota for the first year that such number is available.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that the alien was born of the white race on March 17, 1912 in Wei Hai Wei (Port Edward), China, and that he is a citizen of Great Britain. He entered the United States at the port of New York on May 17, 1950, when he was admitted as a treaty trader under section 3 (6) of the Immigration Act of 1924 until June 1, 1950. Subsequently his application for a change of status was granted and his immigration status was changed from that of a treaty trader to that of a temporary visitor until January 11, 1951.

The record further reflects that Mr. Crudge was previously admitted into the United States for a short period of time each year from 1942 until 1949. He stated that he had been employed by the British Overseas Airways Corp. for a number of years as director and later general manager of the western division and that in the early part of 1950 he had acted in a consultative capacity only. He severed his connection with that corporation about the time his request was made for a change of status. Mr. Crudge's wife and family reside in London, England. He stated that he is not employed, that he is a guest in the home of friends in New York, and that his assets consist of a \$2,000 bank deposit.

The quota for China, to which Mr. Crudge is chargeable, is oversubscribed and an immigration visa is not readily obtainable. The record fails, however, to present facts justifying the enactment of special legislation exempting him from the requirements of the general immigration laws.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of this bill.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,  
*Deputy Attorney General.*

Senator Pat McCarran, the author of the bill, has submitted the following information in connection with the bill:

Mr. Vernon G. Crudge, a British subject by birth, was born of British parents in Weihaiwei (Port Edward), North China, on March 17, 1912. Port Edward, which on March 17, 1912, was British territory, was subsequently returned to the Chinese Government and presently is under the control of and is a part of the Republic of China. The father of Mr. Crudge was a former British Army officer born in Devonshire, England, and at the time of his son's birth was in the British Colonial Service in Weihaiwei. The mother of Mr. Crudge was born in London, England. As a child born in the British Colonial Service, the birth certificate of Vernon G. Crudge is recorded in the Office of the British Registrar of Births and Deaths, Somerset House, London, establishing him a British subject by birth.

Vernon G. Crudge came to the United States in June 1942 under authorizations renewed from time to time and was last admitted on May 17, 1950, under the status of a section 3 (6) treaty merchant. Subsequently, in July 1950, his status was changed from a treaty merchant to that of a visitor under section 3 (2) of the Immigration Act of 1924. The change resulted from the fact that Mr. Crudge had discontinued his status as a treaty merchant and desired to remain in the United States as a visitor for an additional period of time.

Mr. Crudge now desires and seeks to become a permanent resident of the United States but is prevented from accomplishing this due to the unfortunate circumstances concerning the place in which he was born which originally, as indicated above, was British territory but due to territorial changes is now, at least for quota purposes under the act of 1924, under the Chinese Government. It will be a considerable period of time, due to the condition of the Chinese quota

before he will be able to acquire permanent residence in the United States. It is essential to him that he acquire such residence, not only for the purpose of engaging in commercial business in this country, which will require frequent trips abroad, but also to realize his ultimate desire to acquire American citizenship. It should be further noted that had Mr. Crudge, a British subject, been born in the United Kingdom (to which country he first returned from Weihaiwei prior to his second birthday) he could readily obtain an immigration visa under the British quota for the purpose of establishing permanent residence in the United States. But as stated above, he is prevented from so doing by reason of his British birth in the port now known as Weihaiwei.

It should also be mentioned that during World War II, Mr. Crudge was engaged in work connected with the Royal Air Force Transport Command Services and the United States Army Air Transport Command Services in Africa, where he was stationed to special duty in this regard.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 59) should be enacted.

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